



**WILLIAM ROCKHILL  
NELSON GALLERY OF  
ART and MARY ATKINS  
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**

**GALLERY NEWS**

## THE WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON TRUST

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### LECTURES AND GALLERY GUIDANCE

Information concerning scheduled lectures for the month will be found in the following pages. Special talks for groups may be arranged by appointment. Services of a guide may be secured at a fee of twenty cents per person, with a minimum fee of one dollar for an hour's tour. Due to limited personnel at the present time, arrangements should be made in advance.

### ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Information about enrollment for Saturday and Summer Classes may be obtained from the Director of Junior Education. Saturday afternoon activities especially for children are listed in the calendar.

### PUBLICATIONS

Catalogues, handbooks, photographs, postcards, etc., are for sale at the Information Desk to the left of the North Entrance. This News Letter is published once each month, September through June, plus a Summer Issue, and is distributed without charge.

See back page for further information.

G A L L E R Y   N E W S  
April                    1944

GROUP EXHIBITION OF ARTISTS OF KANSAS CITY AND VICINITY: For a number of years the month of April at the Gallery was devoted to a series of one-man shows by contemporary American artists. The custom is being revived this year with a showing of oils, water-colours and sculptures by six Kansas City artists and two from the University of Kansas.

Rifka Angel, who came to Kansas City two years ago, is well known in the progressive art circles of Chicago and New York. She began her art career as a model and her first excursions into painting were discovered and encouraged by such artists as John Sloan, Ganso and Matulka. She went to Paris and later to her native Russia where the director of the art academy, in Moscow was so impressed by her work that he admitted her to the academy, waiving almost without precedent, the rigid mathematical and technical requirements. She works in all mediums, oil, watercolour and encaustic, but her watercolours are particularly expressive in a fine sensitivity of line and a certain delicate sophistication. Most unusual are the encaustics, painted with pigment mixed with wax in the manner of the age old Greek portraits, in which Miss Angel unites subtle form and deep, glowing colour.

Lucille Cowherd's watercolours and black and white wash drawings have a gaiety and piquancy which make one think of the lighter side of the School of Paris painters. Studies of her own garden and interesting glimpses of studio interiors in watercolour are varied with still life compositions in black and white wash, a medium in which Mrs. Cowherd is particularly successful. Mrs. Cowherd studied at the St. Louis School of Fine Arts, at the Church School of Design in Chicago and has exhibited in a one-man show at the St. Louis Artist's Guild and the Fish Creek Artists' Colony in Michigan. Since coming to Kansas City she has shown with the Mid-western Exhibition where her work has received awards.

Raymond J. Eastwood's work is well-known in Kansas City, as he has been both an exhibitor and a prize winner in local exhibitions. Until two years ago, Mr. Eastwood was a member of the faculty of the Department of Painting at the University of Kansas, which position he left for service with the army air corps. He is now a Staff Sergeant stationed at Will Rogers Field in Oklahoma, where he instructs in the taking and reading of aerial reconnaissance photographs. Mr. Eastwood is represented in the exhibition by twelve oils of his favorite subject matter, the coast of his native New England where the changing light and shifting sands offer a constant challenge to the artist in the subtle variation of color and atmosphere. Robert Nathan, in his "Portrait of Jenny", advises a young painter to "leave the dunes to Eastwood" and the evidence is that he is quite capable of handling the situation.

Lawrence Edwards, a former student at the Kansas City Art Institute and more recently assistant in the sculpture department, also represents the armed forces. He left the Institute to supervise the setting up of a plaster model-making shop for an air-craft plant in Kansas; later worked in this field for Beechcraft at Wichita, and subsequently was drafted. He has just finished his basic training at Camp Callan in California, and it is from here that the exhibited work comes. Mr. Edwards' first interest is sculpture, but his watercolors attest his abilities as both draftsman and colorist. He has attempted, and admirably achieved, the spectacular moods of the diversified west coast landscape with a freshness and daring that promise well for the future of this young artist.

Joseph Fleck, now artist-in-residence at the University of Kansas City, calls Taos, New Mexico, his real home and his work is usually associated with the Taos group. Mr. Fleck received his early training at the Vienna

Academy of Fine Arts and is a holder of awards in the Mid-Western Exhibition and from the Chicago Art Institute. His work is owned in a number of private and public collections and he has two murals in the Post Office at Raton, New Mexico. Just now he is engaged in work on a mural of student life at the University of Kansas City. The canvases exhibited were all executed in the Southwest and depict the scenery and life of that colorful section.

Mildred Welsh Hammond is sculptress, painter and draughtsman, but in whichever field she may be working, her favorite subject matter is the animal world. Miss Hammond's contribution to the current exhibition however, with its studies of heads and its caricatures, shows equal insight whether that animal world contains genus Homo sapiens or genus Equus caballus. Conte crayon, pastel and watercolor are the mediums used. Mrs. Hammond is a member of the faculty of the Kansas City Art Institute and has been awarded prizes in both sculpture and other mediums in Kansas City exhibitions. Forty watercolours of circus subjects were recently shown at the Ringling Museum in Sarasota, Florida, from which all but three were sold.

Karl Mattern is also a member of the faculty of the Department of Painting at the University of Kansas and has taken first awards in several Kansas City exhibitions, for both oil and watercolors. He was a pupil of George Bellows at the Chicago Art Institute and has worked at the Art Students League. His watercolors have been exhibited in major exhibitions throughout the country and are owned by the Denver Art Museum, the Brooklyn Museum, University of Nebraska, Wichita, the collection of the International Business Machines Company and numerous private collections. Mr. Mattern is best known for his work in watercolour, which he handles with vigor and the surety of purpose which is so necessary to the success of that medium. He is, however, equally at home in the use of oil and has turned more and more to that

technique in recent years, represented in the present exhibition by a landscape and two portraits.

Wallace Rosenbauer, now Acting Director of the Kansas City Art Institute and head of the Sculpture Department for a number of years, is too well known to Gallery goers to need much introduction. He has studied at the St. Louis School of Fine Arts, the Institute here and with Alexandre Archipenko. He has taken prizes both here and in St. Louis and is represented in the Friends of Art Collection at the Gallery. The wide range of the artist's technical abilities and esthetic expression are demonstrated in the dozen or more works of the exhibition. The Belgian marble "Creation", with its power and serious philosophical content offers interesting contrast to the relaxed beauty of the "Sleeping Girl" in terra cotta and the delightful humor of the small "Minnie the Mantis".

MASTERPIECE OF THE MONTH:

The masterpiece for the month of April is a fresh and springlike landscape "Crossing the Meadow" by Claude Monet. Part of the collection of W. Averell Harriman, the present American ambassador to Russia, it has been placed on loan at the Gallery.

Monet, who did not die until 1926, was the last of the nineteenth century giants of painting. In the vanguard of the young Impressionists of Paris in the 1850's, he was the most adventurous explorer of the effects of atmosphere on local color. While never as great a colorist as Manet or Renoir, he achieved beautiful harmonies of subdued tones. In "Crossing the Meadow", the palette is simple; the predominant colors are cool greens and blues. Building up his composition, he has swept away all irrelevant detail and has carried his simplification almost to the extreme, yet he has never lost the essential feeling of the landscape.

### CHINESE TEA:

Our soldiers in the Aleutians are the inspiration and will benefit from the proceeds of the party which Service For America will give at the Gallery on Friday afternoon, April 14th. It is to be a Chinese tea, with refreshments, costumes, fortune tellers, flags and prizes from that country. In Gallery 24 there will be a special exhibition of Chinese art lent by Kansas City collectors. We hope to show many things not previously exhibited and will appreciate hearing about what YOU have that might be available for display. Mrs. Harry Hussey and Mrs. M. R. Sickman, both of whom have lived for years in Peking, will give short talks that afternoon in the exhibition room. We are looking forward to a colorful and entertaining afternoon, hoping that all our friends will be present. Tickets (which include a chance on the several dozen prizes) are now on sale through members of Service For America or at the Sales Desk of the Gallery. The day is April 14th, the hours two to five, the charge one dollar, and the purpose is to provide furnishings for the Quonset huts used by our boys in the Aleutians.

### THE PRINT GALLERIES:

The series of etchings known as "The Caprices" by Francisco Goya may be numbered among the most extraordinary productions of an artist who, even in his more conventional portraits, is anything but ordinary. They record in exquisite drawing the fantasies and cynical speculations of the late years of a man whose life has been turbulent and whose experiences have left him no illusions. While in his lifetime Spanish society found in them many parallels among the great of Spain, Goya himself disclaimed any personal intent, saying they "ridicule and stigmatise those prejudices, impostures and hypocrisies which have been consecrated by time." Time appears to have proved their universal application, for they are as pertinent today as yesterday. The seventy-one plates of the series which will be shown in the Print Rooms through April and May are from the permanent collection.

WEDNESDAY EVENING LECTURES:

The evening of April 5th will open the series of four lectures on the art of Colonial America and the United States. Dr. Robert Hubbard of the University of Kansas City will be guest speaker on "Colonial Painting in North America".

On April 12th, Miss Jackson will discuss art in the opening years of the young republic, covering the period from the Revolution through the Civil War. On April 19th, she will continue with the most interesting and somewhat chaotic half century when Victorian conventionality, native traditions and foreign influences were perplexing the American artist.

The period from the famous Armory Show of 1913 to the present day will complete the winter series on the evening of April 26th.

FRIENDS OF ART:

The April meeting of the Friends of Art Study Group will be held in Gallery 20 on Thursday, April 20, at eleven o'clock. The current exhibition of works by artists from Kansas City and vicinity will be the subject of Miss Jackson's talk.

MUSICAL PROGRAMS

A number of interesting events are planned for the month of April. On Tuesday evening, April 18th, Dr. Wictor Labunski will give a concert in Atkins Auditorium as a benefit for the two music sororities, Mu Phi Epsilon and Sigma Alpha Iota. Tickets may be obtained at the Gallery Sales Desk or by calling Martha Orr at the Conservatory of Music, Va. 6644.

Mrs. Miles Blim and Mrs. Verna Boyer will present piano pupils on Friday evening, April 14th and 21st respectively. Mrs. Lois Black Hunt, Miss Edna Forsythe and Mr. DeRubertis will present the last of their series on Sunday afternoon, April 16th. The remaining programs are listed in the calendar.

As the concert season draws to a close, we should like to announce that plans for next season are now being made. All teachers and organizations interested in reserving Atkins Auditorium should write or call Miss Rosen-thal at the Gallery.

MOTION PICTURES: Of especial interest at this time of year is the picture "El Miraculo di Montevergine" to be shown in Atkins Auditorium Sunday afternoon, April 9th. This Eastertide Miracle story of the great shrine of Monte-vergine is approved by the Centro Cattalico Cinematographico of the Papal State. It is in Italian with English sub-titles.

There have been numerous requests for another Russian film before the end of the season, so we have arranged to show "Chapayev", one of the most famous contemporary Soviet films, on Friday evening, the 28th, and Sunday afternoon, the 30th. Boris Babochkin plays the title role. This film promises grand entertainment for any audience and is an appropriate ending to the Gallery film series.

DEPARTMENT OF JUNIOR EDUCATION: The Saturday morning art appreciation classes will close on April 22nd with a play by the marionette group, "The Knight in Shining Armour". Announcement concerning the summer term will be made in the May issue of GALLERY NEWS. The advanced class in General Activities will give two puppet plays for the children on April 8th, "Elephant Gay" and "The Traveling Musicians of Bremen". On April 15th all classes will see a demonstration of finger-painting by Miss Violet Echoff

The film "Song of China" will terminate the Saturday afternoon programs on April 15th. Motion pictures for the first two Saturday afternoons in April will be "Rembrant" on the first and "Life in 18th Century Williamsburg" on the eighth. "Rembrant" and "Song of China" are primarily for high school students, but "Williamsburg", in tech nicolor, will be of great interest to all ages.

## CALENDAR FOR APRIL

- Sat. 1 - 2:30 - Cinema, "Rembrandt"  
Sun. 2 - 3:30 - Concert - Mu Phi Epsilon  
Tues. 4 - 2:00 - Library - Asiatic Study Club  
Wed. 5 - 8:00 - Lecture, Colonial North American Art, Dr. Hubbard  
Fri. 7 - GALLERY CLOSED FRIDAY EVENING  
Sat. 8 - 2:30 - Cinema - "Life in 18th C. Williamsburg"  
Sun. 9 - 3:30 - Cinema - "El Miracolo di Montevergine"  
Tues. 11 - 10:00 - Library - Book Club  
" 11 - 10:00 - Lounge - Corinna Delphians  
" 11 - 1:00 - Library - Art Study Club  
Wed. 12 - 8:00 - Lecture - North American Art, 1770-1870, Miss Jackson  
Fri. 14 - 7:45 - Gallery 14 - Talk, "Monet", Miss Jackson  
" 14 - 8:15 - Concert - Pupils of Mrs. Miles Blim  
Sat. 15 - 2:30 - Cinema - "Song of China"  
Sun. 16 - 3:30 - Concert - Hunt-Forsythe  
Tues. 18 - 2:00 - Library - Asiatic Study Club  
" 18 - 8:15 - Concert - Dr. Labunski  
Wed. 19 - 8:00 - Lecture - North American Art, 1870-1913, Miss Jackson  
Thur. 20 - 11:00 - Gallery 20, Friends of Art  
Fri. 21 - 7:45 - Gallery 24 - Talk, Chinese Art Locally Owned, Miss Hughes  
" 21 - 8:15 - Concert - Pupils of Mrs. Verna Boyer  
Sun. 23 - 3:30 - Concert - K.C. Musical Club  
Tues. 25 - 10:00 - Lounge, Corinna Delphians  
Wed. 26 - 8:00 - Lecture - North American Art, 1913-1944, Miss Jackson  
Fri. 28 - 7:45 - Talk - Gallery 28, Giovanni di Paolo, Miss Lebrecht  
" 28 - 8:00 - Cinema - "Chapayev"  
Sun. 30 - 3:30 - " "

## THE LIBRARY

The Library is open to the public by appointment for study purposes. Volumes are not circulated.

## SERVICE LOUNGE

A special lounge is maintained for men and women in the armed forces. Books, magazines, and a piano are available. Light refreshments are served on Sunday afternoon. There is no admission charge at any time for people in uniform.

## GIFTS TO THE COLLECTION

The greater part of all museum collections has been built up by individual gifts or bequests. Already hundreds of gifts from all over the United States have widened the scope of the Nelson Collection. The Trustees and Director will be pleased to discuss the acceptability of gifts or bequests with those desiring to contribute to the Collection. Gifts of or contributions for contemporary art are especially solicited and would constitute a most noteworthy memorial as the Nelson Funds can be used for purchase of works of art only when the artist has been dead at least thirty years. The Gallery will be glad to give information about the Society of Friends of Art which has been formed by interested patrons for the purpose of purchasing and presenting to the Collection, works by contemporary artists.

The financial cooperation of everyone for such activities as loan exhibitions, courses of lectures, the Library, musical programs, classes for children in art appreciation or the history of art or the peoples of the world as exemplified in the Gallery collections is an urgent need and the Director will be pleased to furnish detailed information.

The legal entity to which gifts should be made is: University Trustees of the William Rockhill Nelson Trust.

WILLIAM ROCKHILL NELSON GALLERY OF ART

ATKINS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

KANSAS CITY 2, MO.

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